

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-07
OES-07 DODE-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 PM-04 H-02 PA-02
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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC3390

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 6927

USIA FOR IOP, INA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECHS, PFOR, IN
SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS U.S. APPROVAL OF NUCLEARFUEL TO INDIA.

1. STATESMAN CORRESPONDENT WARREN UNNA, IN FRIDAY'S
EDITION REPORTED FROM WASHINGTON THAT THE CARTER
ADMINISTRATION "HAS DECIDED TO APPROVE THE SHIPMENT OF
THE OVERDUE ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL" FOR TARAPUR. THE
DECISION, JUST MADE, " UNNA SAID, " WILL BE RELAYED
SHORTLY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA"

2 " THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS DECIDED NOT TO INSIST
THAT INDIA EITHER OPEN UP ALL HER NUCLEAR FACILITIES TO
SAFEGUARD THROUGH INSPECTION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL
ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY OR SIGN THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION
TREATY.. BOTH CONDITIONS WERE UNACCEPTABLE TO INDIA, AND
KNOWN BY WASHINGTON TO BE UNACCEPTABLE TO INDIA."
INSTEAD, UNNA SAID, THE U.S. WILL ASK INDIA TO "AT LEAST"
DISCUSS MUTUAL CONCERNS ABOUT PLUTONIUM PROLIFERATION.

3. THE ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION, UNNA SAID, "IS LIMITED
TO A GO-AHEAD ON JUST THE CURRENT TARAPUR REFUELLING ORDER
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WHICH I DUE AT INDIA'S HYDERABAD FUEL ROD FABRICATION
PLANT NOT LATER THAN THIS MONTH IN ORDER TO BE READIED FOR
ACTUAL INSTALLATION AT TARAPUR LATER THIS YEAR."

4. HE POINTED OUT THAT " IT ALSO MEANS" THAT AMBASSADOR
GOHEEN " WILL NOT BE CONFRONTED WITH A SERIOUS CRISIS IN
INDO-AMERICAN RELATIONS" WHEN HE ARRIVES IN DELHI. UNNA

ALSO SAID AMBASSADOR GOHEEN "HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH GIVING HIGHEST PRIORITY TO THE PHASING OUT OF SOVIET-AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA."

5. ON CARTER'S EFFORTS TO SLOW DOWN ARMS SALES ABROAD, UNNA SAID THAT BHUTTO'S MOUNTING CRITICISM OF THE U.S. HAS GIVEN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION " AN EASY EXCUSE FOR NOT BEING OVER SOLICITOUS" AND THEPROPOSED SALE OF A-7 BOMBERS TO PAKISTAN IS A "DEAD DUCK."

6. THE DISPATCH CONCLUDED THAT "SERIOUS THOUGHT " IS BEING GIVEN TO SENDING SECRETARY VANCE TO NEW DELHI IN AUGUST FOR THE MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE INDO-AMERICAN JOINT COMMISSIONS.

7. IN A SIMILAR DISPATCH DATELINED MAY 12, TIMES OF INDIA WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT KAMATH REPORTED THAT "KNOWLEDGEABLE SOURCES SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE NUCLEARFUEL FOR TARAPUR POWER PLANT WILL SOON BE MADE AVAILABLE."

8. BUT IT IS CLEAR, HE ADDED, THAT "THIS IS A STOP-GAP ARRANGEMENT AND THERE WILL BE CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS ON THE ENTIRE QUESTION OF INDIA'S FUTURENUCLEAR POLICY." KAMATH SAID THAT "THIS INDEED WILL BE THE MAJOR ISSUE CONFRONTING INDIA AND THE U.S."WHEN AMBASSADOR GOHEEN TAKES CHARGE IN DELHI.

9. " MR. GOHEEN'S TENURE HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE EASY" BY A PERSONAL LETER WRITTEN BY CARTER TO PRIME MINISTER
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DESAI, NOTED KAMATH. HE ADDED: " THOUGH THERE ARE NOKNOWN PLANS FOR A CARTER VISIT TO INDIA IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, MR. VANCE, WILLBE GOING TO INDIA IN AUGUST TO ATTEND THE ROUTINE INDO-U.S. BILATERAL TALKS."
SCHNEIDER

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Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
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